

qualify the candidate to find pleasure and profit in pursuing the positively useful.

Blind guides are mistaken in supposing the natural guides are all wrong, and if followed, will surely lead to evil results. They forget they themselves were once young, and the many difficulties thrown before them, purposely, to hedge the only practical way to that kind of knowledge compatible with the powers of the mind to enjoy, to assimilate and to nourish. They mistake natural desires for knowledge as natural propensities for folly, and prefer, however difficult, to prevent the pursuit rather than to follow and assist reason, however easy, to draw just conclusions from the experience thus obtained.

### ERRORS IN THE USE OF WORDS.

"The Baptists are about to lie out five hundred dollars in their church," said a man of some pretensions in our hearing, not long since. Whether the Baptists were successful in "laying out" the specified amount, we have not learned, but this seeming libel upon a worthy sect was perhaps due more to ignorance than carelessness. The two words *lay* and *lie* are very often used improperly. We "*lie*" down ourselves, but we "*lay*" down every thing that we use. We "*lay*" a book on the desk, we "*lay*" up stores for future use. The heifer "*lays*" their eggs and men who "*lie*" eat them. We "*lie*" in bed to-day, but we *lay* in bed yesterday. We "*lay*" a thing down, in the present tense, but *laid* it down in the past. Hence the expression we "*laid*" down to rest is wrongfully used for we *lay* down, *lay* being the past tense of *lie*, and *laid* the past of *lay*.

The sun never "*sits*," as some persist in saying, but it sets every day. Fowls "*sit*" upon their eggs, men sit in chairs, but "*set*" a building on its foundation. Another common error is to say, "I done it" and "I have did it," for I did it, and I have done it. The word "*got*" is frequently ill used. To say we have fine weather, is much better than to say we have *got* fine weather. So "*we ought not to do a thing*," is preferable to saying "*we had not ought to do it*," or, "*we ought not to go*" instead of "*we had not ought to go*." Some writers use the expression, "*I am a mind*" to do this or that, when they should say "*I have a mind*." Some say that "*one thing is rounder than another*." A thing that is round, is perfectly round; how then can another thing be said to be rounder? "*Cast steel soap*" is sometimes ordered when castile soap is wanted. The word *ugly* is improperly applied to the disposition. An ugly person is very homely but may be very good.

Afterward, upward, toward, and words of like termination, are frequently written afterwards, upwards, towards, etc., which is improper. So the words *endwise* lengthwise, *crosswise*, are incorrectly written *endways*, *lengthways*, *crossways*, etc. But our article is getting decidedly "*wordy*," and may fail to interest those who might profit by brief hints. Those who are "*posted*" in these matters, will not, of course, read or criticise our remarks.

### THE BELLEVILLE SEMINARY.

[From the C. C. Advocate.]

The Visitors of the Belleville Seminary feel that we owe it as a duty to the public, as well as to the Institution itself, to express the opinion of its efficiency and claims to public support which we have formed from a pretty careful attention to its examination and general working.

The recent annual examination gave proof in every department, of that first great requisite to good scholarship, thoroughness. The general style of answering shows that the pupils were well rooted and grounded in the elements of their studies. While the amount of work performed during the session was such, that only assiduous study on the part of the students, and great fidelity on the part of the teachers, could have accomplished it.

Speaking generally of the Faculty, we think that the teachers have fine abilities for their vocation, and that they exert them conscientiously.

From our own observation, and from careful inquiry, we feel warranted in saying that good order and decorum are uniformly maintained in the Institution, and we are happy to believe without recourse being necessary to that severest of discipline, which has often found place in similar Institutions; but which is always most painful. In this respect we think the Belleville Seminary has been singularly happy during the last academic year.

The visitors have nothing to do with its financial affairs, but we cannot refrain from expressing our regret and surprise that, the Institutions should be so crippled by debt, and we feel that its merits, and the great work that it is already doing, need but be known to the public to secure for it adequate assistance.

We most cordially and earnestly recommend this Institution to parents and guardians, as a safe, a pleasant, and a profitable school for the education of their children, and we feel every confidence in advising them to entrust the intellectual and moral interests of their sons and daughters, to the safe keeping of its governing faculty and teachers.

W. HOPE, M. D., Mayor of Belleville.  
RUFUS HOLDEN, M. D.  
REV. S. W. LADU.  
REV. J. C. BURNELLE.

**SENSIBLE.**—Rev. Anson Smyth, State Commissioner of Common Schools in Ohio, in his last report to the Legislature, makes the following remarks.—Every teacher should read at least one good newspaper, otherwise he will live in ignorance of daily occurring facts, in regard to which his profession requires that he should be informed. Newspapers are fast becoming the teachers of the world; and the man or woman who is not a habitual reader of this department of literature cannot be thoroughly qualified for the teacher's profession.

Bell's tavern, so well known to all visitors to the mammoth Cave, Ky., was recently destroyed by fire, and the furniture consumed with the building.

### CHILDREN'S FACES.

It is interesting to study human nature in children's faces, to see the effect of different modes of education upon diverse developments of mind and body. Many children look sour, wilful, and ugly; while others look happy, pleasant, and sweet, as children should. Much as perfect or diseased physical nature, proper or improper diet, may have to do in producing these appearances, home discipline and example, as a general thing, have more. Mothers do not realize that they fasten their own feelings, so far as expressed in their countenances, upon the faces of their offspring. She who scowls and frowns habitually, must not expect her child to look joyous, but quarrelled and surly. Like mother, like child; only she who sows the wind in the heart of her daughter, may expect to see the whirlwind gather and burst forth, as our harvests are generally more plentiful than the seed we scatter. Select a very pleasant-looking child, and notice if it have not a pleasant-looking mother, one who answers many of its thousand and one questions with a warm, loving smile, instead of turning away the inquiring mind and fretting at its endless teasing.

**PARENTAL EXAMPLE.**—Example is a living lesson. The life speaks. Every action has a tongue. Words are but articulate breath.—Deeds are the fac-similes of the soul: they proclaim what is within. The child notices the life. It should be in harmony with goodness. Keen is the vision of youth; every mark is transparent. If a word is thrown into one balance, a deed is thrown into the other.—Nothing is more important than that parents should be consistent. A sincere word is never lost. But advice, counter to example, is always suspected. Both cannot be true; one is false. Example is like statuary. It is reality. The eye dwells upon it; the memory recalls it; the imagination broods over it. Its influence enters the soul. Parental example becomes incorporated with the child's understanding. He cannot forget it if he would.—If it is good, it blesses. If it is bad, it curses. The parent may die, his example cannot.—Let life, then, be an unblemished picture, a consistent whole.

"The School-House," says Gov. Chase, "is a better institution than the Court-House or the State House, in the State-House, laws are enacted, in the Court-House, laws are applied; in the School-House legislators, judges and jurymen are made. Especially is the School-House indispensable where popular government is made a practical reality by free suffrage and general eligibility to office. It is impossible to over estimate the importance of universal education, where every boy is to be a voter, and every boy may be a President.

Hospitality is commanded to be exercised even towards an enemy when he cometh to thy house. The tree doth not withdraw its shade even from the wood-cutter.

The first ingredient in conversation is truth; the next, good sense; the third, good humor; and the fourth, wit.